Pageant of Noble Women

Excellent Production by Y. W. C. T. U. in Aid of Armenians.

"The Pageant of Famous Women" presented at the city hall last evening under the auspices of the Y. W. C. T. U., in aid of the Aremnians drew a large crowd. It was an excellent performance, everyone of the thirty-two participants giving a fine account of themselves. The entertainment had been arranged by Miss Frances McClatchie and its success was a tribute to her efforts and to the entertainers.

The girls and young women taking part gave a very fine living exposition of the part played by woman in the world, religion, royalty, heroism, music, art, and nursing, were represented in the noble characters of history, while symbolic figures of Britannia and Canada the mother and types like the Scotch lassie, the Italian girl, Indian woman, Salvation Army girl came before the footlights. The production closed with the crowning of "the mother" as the greatest of all.

Miss Elsie Gastrell made a dignified judge. The part of Ruth was taken very effectively by Miss Sabra Bonisteel. Mrs. Chas. Hyde was a royal figure as Queen Isabel of Spain and gave a very fine plea of her right to immortality of fame. Miss Maud Sine played the role of Grace Darling with excellence of appreciation of the part. Miss Mary Yeomans appeared as Jenny Lind, the great singer and was gowned in the beautiful dress of a past generation. She sang with deep feeling "Believe Me, if all Those Endearing young Charms." "Uncle Tom's Cabin provided a little scene, Miss Isabel Adams giving a fine portrayal of Miss Ophelia, while Miss Jane Bishop was inimitable in the part of Topsy. Miss Nellie Milne left nothing to be desired as little Eva. Mrs. W. S. Rathman chose the role of Madam Patti, the great diva and acquitted herself most creditably in the difficult Juliet's waltz song from Gounod's "Romeo and Juliet. The Japanese girl type was played with fine sense by Miss Frances McClatchie. Miss Amelia Lazier took the part of Barbara Frietchie of Civil War fame and did full justice to it. Quiet dignity and grace marked the characterization of Mary, Queen of Scots given by Miss Florence White. Mrs. James Grant never made a finer impression that she did last evening in her part of Melba, the Queen of Song. Little Miss Hégie impressed the spectators in her part of "Indian Woman" "The Italian girl" played by Miss Joy Higgs was true to life. The type gave her an excellent opportunity for a violin solo which was roundly applauded. "Samantha Allen" came back out of the past, her part being taken by Mrs. Vantassel in a flawless manner. Miss Jean McIntosh brought in the atmosphere of the heather and sang "Comin' thro' the Rye" and was encored for her excellent work. Captain Balfour portrayed the Salvation Army Girl true to life and made a fine presentation of the Salvationist's right to fame. Miss Grace Tucker represented Rosa Bonheur, the great painter, with rare skill. Miss Ada Ketcheson was one of the best in the parts in "Mother Goose" seeming to have caught the real essence of the character. "The Maid" was portrayed by Miss Beatrice Winters with the reserve of dignity of the part. Mrs. Norman Fisk took the part of Marie Antoinette, the unfortunate Queen of France and gave a very fine study of the character. Miss Georgia Miller as Florence Nightingale won deserved applause. She was assisted by Miss Stapley as attendant nurse. Miss Florence Adams "gave a worthy" portrayal of Brittania. Miss M. P. Duff sang "O Canada" with much fervor in the part of "Canada" Mrs. Dr. Day was "the Mother." She was accompanied by her young son and attained the mother's right to the crown in a fine reading.

Miss Elizabeth Potter, Mus. Bach., and Mrs. Ronald Lewis were the accompanists of the evening. Miss A. Hurley was the herald announcing the characters. Needless to say her part was well taken. Little Helen Ackerman and Lorena Adams were the crown-bearers. After the crowning of "The Mother" Mrs. Duff sang "Home, Sweet Home."

Miss Nettie Deacon gave an admirable study of Frances Willard.

A man is seldom presented with a better cigar than the one he buys himself.

What three women know the whole neighborhood knows.

Deepening of St. Lawrence

PRELIMINARY CONFERENCE CALLED FOR MARCH 1

Development Will Cost Over 250 Millions.

New York, Feb., 14. — The International Joint Commission on Waterways, considering the development of the St. Lawrence River between Montreal and Lake Ontario, to-day despatched to all interested parties in Canada and the United States calls for a preliminary conference on March 1st at Buffalo. At that time the commission will hear opinions and suggestions on the proposed development it was announced.

The development probably would cost more than $250,000,000, Obadiah Gardner, former United States Senator from Maine and chairman of the American section of the commission said to-day.

Making the part of the river navigable for deep draught ocean steamers would cost more than $50-000,000 and development of unused water power— about 2,000,000 horse-power — would cost about $200,000,000 according to rough estimates reported to Mr. Gardner.

Engineering surveys of the St. Lawrence by Government engineers will begin in the spring.

The commission devoted to deciding on the best way to carry into effect its recommendation of last year to stop pollution of international streams at Detroit and Buffalo. Consensus of opinion was said to favor drafting of a treaty for adoption by the governments of the United States and Canada. Joint legislation by the two countries was called inadequates and the calling of a convention of representatives to consider effective measures was characterized as impracticable, it was stated.

Housing Funds All Used Up

Possibility of Province Guaranteeing Housing Bonds.

The delegation from the city council and the Chamber of Commerce which visited the Parliament Buildings, Toronto, yesterday on the matter of housing in this city, returned to Belleville this morning. The deputation was cordially received by Mr. Nelson Parliament M. P. P., who piloted the party about the Parliament Buildings and introduced the members of the delegation to the Provincial Secretary the Hon. H. C. Nixon, to whom they explained the purpose of their mission — to receive if possible half a million dollars under the Housing Scheme for erecting dwellings in Belleville. Hon Mr. Nixon explained that the appropriation was used up practically, except in the case of some village or towns which have not expended all their appropriation. There might be an opportunity of diverting some of this unused money to Belleville. The Provincial Secretary stated that there was a possibility of the Province guaranteeing bonds of municipality for housing purposes. This would be taken before the next session of the Legislature.

The Minister of Mines was interviewed regarding the sand of the Sandbanks and the uses to which it could be put in the manufacture of glass. The Minister gave the delegation all the information he had on the mines and there is a possibility that it may be used for glass making.

Ald Bone, Ald Ponton and Ald. Doyle and Ald. Demarsh who joined the party at Toronto represented the council and Messrs. A. McGie and F. S. Deacon the Chamber of Commerce.

Radium Discovery Near Huntsville

In Quantities Which Promise To Arouse Activity in Prospecting.

Huntsville, Feb., 14. — There are prospects of a big mining boom here this spring. Yesterday Israel Ward a local mineralogist in association with two prominent mine experts from Cobalt, closed out an option on a piece of mining property, three miles east of Huntsville, and is arranging to continue development. Radium in quantities, which promises to make the property one of huge value, and which will arouse tremendous activity in continued prospecting, has been discovered. Platinum, gold and silver are also reported in paying quantities. The accessibility of the property, which lies just off the main, road three miles from town will quickly add to the interest which the discovery promises to arouse in mining circles. It is said that the options obtained are valued in millions.

Leave Objective Very Far Behind

Many of the City Churches Have Done Excellent Work

Victoria Ave., Baptist

Victoria Ave. Baptist Church has won distinction in the big drive. The subscription total is now about $2,000, which is over 150 p.c. of the allotment. Subscriptions are still pouring in.

John Street, Presbyterian

Incomplete returns to last night give John St. Presbyterian Church atotal of over $9,000 in subscriptions in the National Campaign. The fund will likely reach $10,000 by tonight and will be carried over to next week.

St. Andrew's, Presbyterian

St. Andrew's Church passed its objective last night and the canvass will be continued until Monday when the meeting will be held. Definite figures are not available today. St. Andrew's objective was $6.800 and the team workers are delighted with the response.

St. Thomas', Anglican

St. Thomas' Church will hold a meeting tonight to total up the subscriptions to the Forward Movement. It is expected the givings in St. Thomas' parish will reach $6,000 or $1,000 above the objective. Returns have not yet been received from the rural parishioners.

Opening Day With Ducks on Lake Scugog

Short Story in Rod and Gun By John Townsown.

Below will be found a short story from December Rod and Gun on the opening day with the ducks at Lake Scugog:

A greater number of would – be duck hunters look forward to the opening day of the shooting season than people who are not interested in the sport have any idea of; and when the first day of the season happens to fall on a holiday, as was the case last year, the number of shooters is greatly increased.

There is no part of Ontario that I know of, where the same conditions prevail in regard to duck shooting as those in vogue at the south end of Lake Scugog, consequently some explanation is necessary to give the impression is given that sary. Looking at Lake Scugog on the the lake is oval shape with a large island in the centre. The fact is that a large wild rice marsh and bay occupy the space between the island and the mainland on the south. Across this marsh or earth embankment, with a roadway on top, has been constructed, which affords communication with Scugog Island (on which there is an Indian Reserve) and the Township of Cartwright on the mainland to the south. The ducks, which have their feeding ground on the lake fly back and forward over this highway. Duck hunting differs from other forms of shooting owing to the fact that the gun is only part of the equipment that is necessary to the successful following of the sport. Some kind of boat or canoe, and a few decoys, either alive or inanimate are essential to meet with success in capturing wildfowl. On the Cartwright road a gun and an automobile seems to be the combination most in use. On Sunday afternoon the shooters began to arrive in their cars, and at daylight next morning the gunners were strung along the road at intervals of 30 to 40 yards for a mile or more. The passing overhead of the first flock of black birds was the signal for the fusilade to begin, and then for an hour or two the bombardment was continuous. It is indeed strange what an idea some people have of the range of a shotgun. It did not make a bit of difference how high the birds flew, the guns were emptied just the same, In fact some were apparently oblivious of the fact that the guns were pointed in their direction, and kept on flying serenely along. On stormy days the ducks fly at a low altitude and some times a few are brought down, but on a calm, such as the first day of the season was this year, it was only occasionally that a duck was brought down by using No. 1 shot or a larger shot. A returned soldier, who was on the Cartwright road firing line made the remark that it took a ton of lead to kill a soldier, and by the same token it would take a hundredweight of lead to bring down a black duck in that locality. It was gratifying to see that the number of black ducks is above the average this fall, and it might be added that the number will not be diminished by the quantity that is killed in crossing the Cartwright road. The wary black duck is entirely capable of taking care of himself, and I wish the same could be written about some of the smaller varieties like the teal, buffle heads, etc. Every good sportsmen ought to let them pass on when they come within range, otherwise they will go the way of the passenger pigeon.

When Rebel Soldiers Camped on Thousand Island Park Site

At the most westerly side of the settled portion of Thousand Island Park, a promontory that was known by old-time inhabitants as South Bay Point extends far out into the waters, from which miles of the most interesting scenery along the river are in view. The place for many years was the most popular camping ground and shore dinner resort, and almost every prominent and famous man or woman of our country who has visited this section has, with families and friends enjoyed open-air banquets under the branches of the same oaks and pines that are there today.

But time has wrought its changes there as elsewhere, and instead of a free camping ground the point is now the site of many expensive summer homes that hardly a one of the owners or occupants as they step forth to the plazzas to sniff the fresh morning air, and to view the peaceful scene all about them, might hardly believe, if told, that right there was once the camp of hostile armed men ready to offer bloody battle to any who might interfere.

During the latter part of our Civil War the Confederate Government and its military leaders had come to the decision that their only hope of winning the great game would be to transfer the scene of hostilities into the northern states, that the devastation and horrors might discourage the people and put an end, favorable to the South, to it all.

For a year or more Confederate soldiers and officers, singly or by twos and threes, were transported to Canada, their excuse for entering a neutral country being generally that they were northern deserters, and as such, if their given reasons had been truth, there were no international laws to justify their expulsion so long as they obeyed and abided by local laws of the provinces.

Jacob Thompson, Clement C. Clay, Harry McDonald, and a dozen others whose names it is not necessary to mention here, were appointed as commissioners of the Confederate Government, and were stationed at Montreal, Toronto and other cities, and their official assistants were in every village and town in Canada.

Besides the 50,000 or more of free Confederate soldiers scattered throughout the provinces and waiting the call to arms, there were 80,-000 more in confinement in military prisons along the great lakes, at Chicago and at Johnson's Island in Sandusky harbor, Lake Erie.

All those prisoners were trained soldiers, a considerable portion of them having been officers from major generals down to colonels and captains.

To bring about the release of those thousands of prisoners that together with the waiting soldiers in Canada would make a mighty army was what Thompson and his assistants in Toronto had been planning for a year. Captain John Beall, a Confederate naval officer, was sent to a port on Lake Erie, his plans there to be the seizure of a couple of small steamers on which he and his party were to be posing as passengers. The next act was to be to run alongside the gunboat Michigan, while she was at anchor, and while pretending to be peaceful sightseers to overpower the crew and take possession of the vessel and with it well stocked with big guns and ammunition to cruise the lakes, to bombard and destroy Chicago, Milwaukee, Detroit, Cleveland and Buffalo, then to release all the rebel prisoners to carry on land operations all along the lakes and the St. Lawrence.

But the great plot came to an inglorious halting almost at the minute the attack was to be made. One of the Confederate soldier prisoners, for a large sum of graft money, gave the plot away to the Sandusky authorities, and Captain Beall and his assistant, Captain Vole, were captured and sent to remain during the war in Fort Lafayette, New York harbor, the same prison in which Jefferson Davis, president of the Confederacy, was afterward confined. Excitement throughout the north, and especially along the northern border, was intense. Newspapers published details of the attempted attack upon lake cities and warned the people that other hostilities would be sure to follow and that at any time war might be raging all among us. The warning did not go unheeded, as all along the river and in the country round about, old men, young men and boys straight away made a daily habit of practicing with firearms of whatever kind and size could be had.

On a September morning in 1861, a few weeks after the attempted seizure of vessels on Lake Erie, William Nunn, sr., a farmer residing a few rods above where the Fine View dock is now located, started forth to search for some young cattle that were missing. The lands where Thousand Island Park is now located were a wilderness, Captain Throop, a retired navigator, residing in Rochester, owning several hundred acres which he had leased to Mr. Nunn as pasturage. The search for cattle led to South Bay Point, where Mr. Nunn, pushing his way through underbrush to the open came upon a large number, nearly a hundred, he said, of strange appearing, scowling men preparing breakfast at a dozen camp fires.

Several guns were leaning against the trees and many of the men had big revolvers at their belts, and several large yawl-like boats were partly pulled up on shore. Not a word was spoken, the intruder backing his way into the underbrush to run at best speed for home, and from there he and John Tyler, a neighbor farmer, made haste across to Fisher's Landing, the nearest place from which the outside world might be reached.

In a few minutes men were galloping on horseback along the highways to give the alarm, to which other men promptly responded, and in an hour a small sized army with all sorts of weapons, were gathered. Judge Dewey, of Watertown, was among the first to arrive, and standing in a buggy addressed the crowd in words that a young and impressionable boy as I was might never forget, and as verification, there is one other living witness, Mrs. Sarah C. Pierce, now residing in Duluth, Minn., who reads this paper, and who stood in her father's front door a few feet away and saw and heard all. Said Judge Dewey:

"Fellow Citizens: We are reliably informed that a large number of strange and armed men are now located on an island near us. No one knows from whence they came nor how long they have been so near us. We believe they are soldiers of the Confederate army, and that they have come either from Lake Erie ports, where a few weeks ago there was almost open warfare, or that they are on their way to join others to raid towns and villages along the border.

"Our young men are fighting at the front; we older ones must defend the rear and our properties and families. None of us here have had military training but we are descended from Americans who knew no fear. I will lead! Who will follow?"

"I! I! I!" was the response from all sides and a few minutes later men were crowding into rowboats that when started reminded one of Washington crossing the Delaware.

The women of the neighborhood and we youngsters were anxious and frightened and listened for the sounds of conflict, but none came. Late in the afternoon the expedition returned to report South Bay Point as evidently hastily evacuated.

One of Mr. Nunn's yearling calves had been butchered, and a part of it left behind, as were some tin cooking dishes and a couple of ragged coats. A search of several hours through Eel Bay and some distance down the Canadian channel was made, but no trace of the invaders was found.

On Oct. 20, 1864, and a few weeks later, a band of Confederate soldiers in command of Lieutenant Young rode into St. Albans, Vt., a few miles south of the Canadian line, in broad daylight. They shot down several citizens, robbed three banks, set fires in a dozen places to burn the town. But they soon learned they had attacked a fearless lot of the descendants of old-time fighters.

Rifles began to crack from windows and house tops and in almost no time the band was wildly fleeing, with armed civilian horsemen giving chase. They were overtaken and compelled to give up the stolen money, the leader, Young, being captured on Canadian soil. Thus ended what was feared a few months before might become a general war all along the border.

The story of the Maple Island hermit, whose cabin was burned, no doubt by men who were seen that night walking about in the light of the fire, has been twice told in these columns. The irons of his boat in the ashes were proof sufficient that he did not leave the island of his own will. No trace of him has ever been found, and men now living in Clayton, who saw him and knew him believe he was murdered and the body sunk in the channel. There are good reasons for the belief that he was implicated, if not the very man, who betrayed the attempted assault upon the Sandusky prison for which he received big pay, and that he was followed and killed in revenge.

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Donations to the Children's Aid

Editor Ontario:—

Dear Sir,—

Will you kindly allow me on behalf of the Finance Committee of The Chidren's Aid Society to tender our sincere thanks for the following further donations received during the month of January towards our Annual Fund:

Thos. D. Ruston, Secretary.

Previously acknowledged	$1,911.30.
Mrs. Geo. Clarke	$1.00
Miss Eva Ellis	1.00
Dr. T. S. Farneomb	5.00
W. Keegan	1.00
Mrs. R. J. Graham	50.00
Mr. Schuster	5.00
Miss Adams	2.00
S. S. No. 4. Huntingdon	1.00
L. O. L. Stirling	10.00
A friend, Stirling	2.00
B. W. Brown	1.00
Mr. R. Zufelt	5.00
Mr. Geo. K. Graham, Belleville	100.
Minto Women's Institute	10.00
Mr. Eichella	10.00
Mr. F. M. Bird	3.00
Mrs. Farnsworth	1.00
Mrs. Doxters	2.00
Mr. G. F. Ostrom	2.00
Mr. Downey Sr.	5.00
Mr. J. S. Waldron	5.00
S. S. No. 16, Thurlow (Per Miss W. Reid)	6.50
T. H. Tickell	1.00
Miss A. Tickell	1.00
Miss J. Tickell	1.00
Mrs. J. D. Tickell	1.00
The John Lewis Co.	5.60
Mr. F. B. Smith (Smith Hardware Co.)	10.00
Mr. Wiggings (Reeve of Faraday)	5.00
A friend	2.00
Union Prayer Service (per Mr. Wallace)	30.00
Women's Institute Stirling	13.52
S. S. No. 19, Harold	1.50
Mr. Fred Tooke	1.00
Total	$2,212.92.

Wedding Bells

ORSER — WELBANKS

A quiet wedding took place at the home of Mr. and Mrs. George C. Welbanks, Paul St., on the morning of Wednesday, February 4th, when their daughter, Mabel Violet, was united in marriage to Sheldon Roscoe Orser, youngest son of the late Mr. and Mrs. John B. Orser, the ceremony being conducted by the Rev. Alfred Brown.

The cosy rooms were suitably arranged and decorated with beautiful flowers.

Mr. and Mrs. Elwood Metcalfe, of Deseronto, were guests.

The bride was becomingly gowned in a travelling suit of navy blue tricotine with chenile trimming and blouse of Georgette with lace. The costume was completed by a navy blue hat with Georgette brim and ribbon crown with silver and feather trimming and a grey squirrel coatee and muff. Mr. and Mrs. Orser took train for Belleville. On their return they will take up their residence on King St.—Picton Gazette.

Some girls sing like nightingales and others sing like gales in the night.